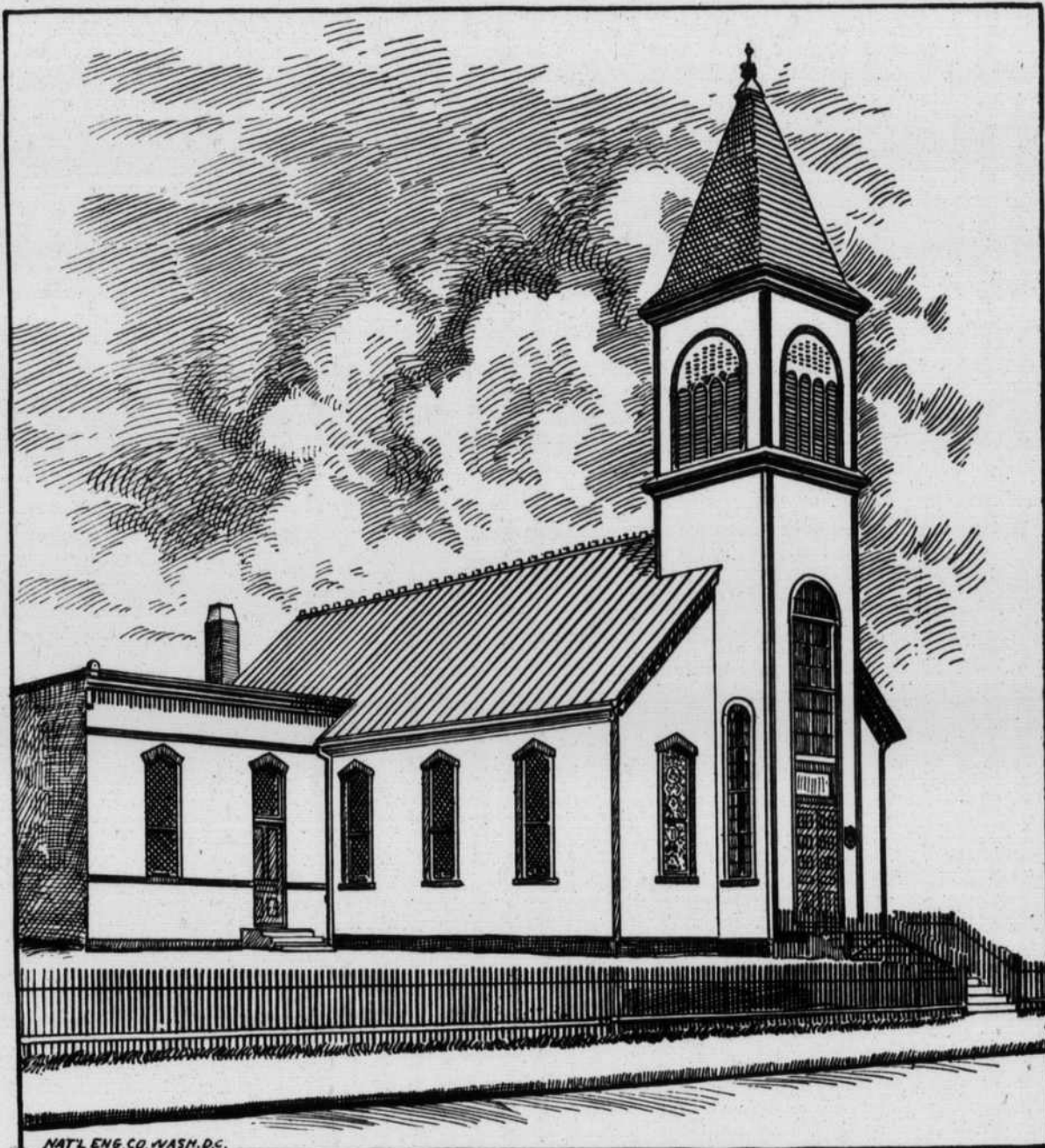


the present time. The little handful of members at the beginning of better things was for a short time under the pastoral care of Eld. H. R. Holsinger. Then called as their first regular resident pastor a promising young German Baptist minister in the person of our present esteemed editor Elder A. D. Gnagey, who served them nobly till he was called by the National Conference of the church to the editorial chair of the churches' publications. Under Brother Gnagey's long and able pastorate the membership grew to a flourishing and influential congregation. The congregation then called Dr. John Crawford Mackey who served a successful and acceptable pastorate of three years. When Brother Mackey resigned to take up the work elsewhere, the call then came to and was accepted by Elder John H. Knepper who still is in charge of the work. Many are the persons that have been received into membership in the church by baptism and by relation, but the experience of the Meyersdale congregation has been that of most of our eastern churches losing so many members by emigration, going to the large inviting field of the west, but what may look to us as loss has been gain to the brotherhood in the west. In the latter part of Brother Gnagey's pastorate the congregation

bought a favorably located and convenient parsonage. The village of Meyersdale, on whose main street are situated both church house and parsonage, has grown to an up-to-date town of more than three thousand inhabitants with paved streets, electric lights and the very best of mountain and gravity water works. With the growth and improvements of the town the congregation has kept well abreast in substantial and convenient improvements, placing into the church building one of the best and most convenient baptisteries it has been our good fortune to see and a few years ago the Sisters' Society for Christian Endeavor put into the parsonage a bath-room, first class in all its appointments.

Great satisfaction must come to the hearts of the faithful who were among the re-organizers of the Brethren church of Meyersdale when they behold her as she now is, and recall the dark and persecuting days which forced the re-organization movement. Surely the blessings of our heavenly Father have been showered upon the work. The congregation is entirely free of debt. If we are to judge the future by the past, the outlook for the twentieth century is very promising.

JOHN H. KNEPPER.



THE WASHINGTON CITY CHURCH

#### The Washington City Mission

I came here on October 4, 1892, under the direction of the General Mission Board of the German Baptist Brethren church and continued in that relation until Aug. 17, 1896, at which time myself and wife with sixteen others, decided to cast our lot with the *gospel-alone* people; accordingly on the same day we were received into the Brethren church brother I. D. Bowman, of Philadelphia, Pa., and brother E. B. Shaver, of Maurertown, Va., officiating. At the same meeting, a partial organization was affected. I was ordained to the eldership in the new church relation and also chosen pastor of the little flock. Four years later

and the membership was but about twenty-five, but within the last year and since we have had our own church home, the membership has been increased to about sixty-five, with a well-equipped organization, and altho the work is not yet self-supporting, we have every reason to believe that the time is not far distant when it will rank among the strongest organizations of the brotherhood. Had we had our own church home in the beginning no doubt today we would not only be self-supporting but able to assist others. The church is located at the corner of 12th and E streets, S. E., at the intersection of E with Pennsylvania Avenue.

W. M. LYON.

#### History of the Lanark, Ill., Church

In the year 1884, July 24, H. R. Holsinger organized the first Brethren church at Dutchtown, Ill., in the German Baptist Brethren church. Thirty members were enrolled.

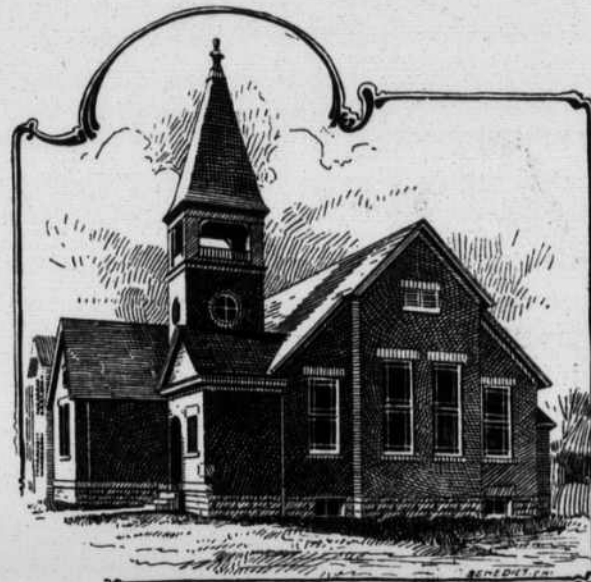


Z. T. LIVENGOOD

On November 9th of the same year, Elders S. H. Bashor, of Waterloo, Iowa, dedicated the new church at Bethlehem. The meetings were continued two weeks with thirty-three accessions. Seven of these resided in Lanark and vicinity. The pastor, Z. T. Livengood preached a few sermons in Lanark during the year 1885. In December 1885, S. H. Bashor conducted a series of meetings in the Baptist church which resulted in thirteen valuable accessions. Soon after this the Baptist church was rented for half time and a Sunday-school was organized with brother W. H. Herrington as superintendent.

The work was now well begun and all worked harmoniously together, none proving recreant to duty. But the growth was slow and for a number of years looked very discouraging. J. H. Worst, R. F. Mallott and S. H. Bashor came to the little band's help and a continual and vigorous work was kept in operation.

In 1889 Elder J. W. Beer, of Calif., was secured as pastor. He remained but six months. Other able ministers were earnestly solicited to come to Lanark, among them A. D. Gnagey, of Meyersdale, Pa., but all failed and the work again fell back upon the old pastor who had charge of Bethlehem and Lanark, eight miles apart.



THE LANARK CHURCH

In the summer of 1889 a new church building was erected in the town of Milledgeville and in Feb. 1890 S. H. Bashor took charge of Bethlehem and Milledgeville and Z. T. Livengood took charge of the Lanark Mission which now numbered about